EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EV 419588139 US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	: Stephen Martone and Katsumi Oheda	Attorney Docket No.: 501061.02
Filed	: Concurrently Herewith	
Title	: ENDOSCOPE ASSEMBLIES HAVING WORKING CHANNELS WITH REDUCED BENDING AND STRETCHING RESISTANCE	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

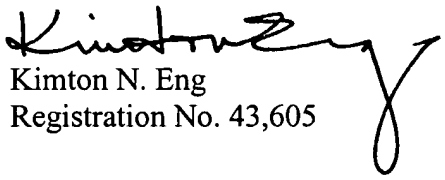
Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicants wish to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the references set forth on the attached form PTO-1449. This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior Application No. 10/040,972, filed January 4, 2002. The references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were submitted to and/or cited by the Patent and Trademark Office in this prior application and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application. If the Examiner wishes, copies will be provided upon request. Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with applicants' duty to disclose all information they are aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicants believe that their invention is patentable.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



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Enclosure:
Form PTO-1449

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FORM PTO-1449 (REV.7-80)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 501061.02	APPLICATION NO. Not yet assigned
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT *(Use several sheets if necessary)*		APPLICANT(S) Stephen Martone and Katsumi Oneda	
		FILING DATE Concurrently herewith	GROUP ART UNIT Not yet assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,353,358	10/12/82	Emerson	128	4	
	AB	4,580,551	4/8/86	Siegmund et al.	128	4	
	AC	4,653,476	3/31/87	Bonnet	128	4	
	AD	4,669,172	6/2/87	Petruzzi	29	456	
	AE	5,025,778	6/25/91	Silverstein	128	4	
	AF	5,483,951	1/16/96	Frassica et al.	600	104	
	AG	5,503,616	4/2/96	Jones	600	155	
	AH	5,749,889	5/12/98	Bacich et al.	606	198	
	AI	5,827,177	10/27/98	Oneda et al.	600	121	
	AJ	6,071,233	6/6/00	Ishikawa et al.	600	104	
	AK	6,309,346	10/30/01	Farhadi	600	114	
	AL						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							

OTHER PRIOR ART *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

	AR	
	AS	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).